THE POLITICAL STRUGGLE.

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THE BLAINE MEN CONFIDENT. THE NOMINATION OF MR. BLAINE ON THE SECOND BALLOT PREDICTED-GRANT LOSING GROUND IN THE SOUTH-JUDGE DAVIS'S BID FOR THE DEMO-CRATIC NOMINATION.

William E. Chandler has made a careful estimate of the composition of the Chicago Convention, and predicts that Blaine a plurality on the first will have ballot, and will be nominated on the second. Mr. Blaine's friends in Washington and in this city are in no respect discouraged by the action of the Illinois Convention, but are confident of victory. The Louisiana Con-8 Grant and 8 vention . will send Sherman delegates. In Tennessee three former Grant delegates have promised vote for Blaine. Throughout the South generally Grant is regarded as losing strength. Ethan Allen sends another list of 1,000 Republicans who pledge themselves under no circumstances to vote for Grant. Senator David Davis has made public his views on important public topics.

A MAJORITY AGAINST GRANT. WILLIAM E. CHANDLER PREDICTS THE NOMINATION OF BLAINE ON THE SECOND BALLOT,

(BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.) WASHINGTON, May 23 .- Mr. W. E. Chandler sent the following dispatch to J. S. Clarkson, Editor of The Iowa State Register, this evening :

"The best and most reliable estimate that can be made this evening gives on the first ballot at Chicago-Blaine 305, Grant 289, Sherman 105, Edmunds 35, Washburne 12, Windom 10, or 289 for Grant to 467 for all others. This estimate is based upon 15 votes for Blaine from New-York, and 18 from Pennsylvania, but none from Ohio or Illinois. Of the 20 contesting delegates from Illinois, elected by the strongest Republican Congressional Districts, 14 are for Blaine and 6 for Washburne. I have little doubt the result will substantially verify the above estimate, and that Mr. Blaine will be nominated on the second ballot. W. E. CHANDLER."

A Washington dispatch to The Boston Traveller reported that a personal friend of Senator Blaine, a Representative in Congress from Maine, has considered the contest ended and Grant's nomination certain since the result in Illinois. Messrs. Forge, Lindsay and Reed, who are the Republican members from Maine, deny having made any such statement. They express the utmost confidence in Mr.

GRANT IN THE SOUTH.

NO HOPE OF HIS CARRYING ANY SOUTHERN STATE-THE DEMOCRATS ANXIOUS TO HAVE HIM NOM-INATED, AS BEING EASY TO BEAT-HOW THINGS LOOK TO A TRAVELLER-JUDGE FIELD'S CHANCES. LFROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.] MONTGOMERY, Ala., May 19 .- In no part of the country is the third-term army weakening so rapidly as in the South. It must be understood in the first place that the strength of the Grant movement in this section has been purposely exaggerated by the local Democratic papers, which are the main sources of information from which the Northern press and people get their estimates. Even the easual traveller through the South will become convinced that the Democrats desire above all things the nomination of the ex-President. They feel that in this nomination lies the main hope of Democratic success, and they have played for it skilfully by promising a split in the Solid South if Grant be put in the field. In pursuance of this plan the local papers have exaggerated the number of Grant delegates elected at the various Conventions, and have printed reports as to an enthusiasm that never existed.

It is of course out of the question that Grant can carry any Southern State that any other Republican candidate cannot carry. In no State-saving Virgina-is there the slightest foundation for any such hope; while in all of the States south of the line, no name will so solidify the whites and so give them energy as that of Graut. It must be remembered that the Southern States are rotten boroughs as far as the Republicans are concerned.

The Republican leaders in these States have no hope of carrying their with any nomination. They feel that they have little business in the National Convention except to secure the good-will of the winning man, and a consequent share of patronage. While there are conorable exceptions, this is true of the bulk of delegates from the South, and they are quick to see a danger signal when it is holsted in front of them. The untoward fate that has met the Grant boom in the past ten weeks has closed the mouth of many a Grant advocate down here, and splits in the thirdterm delegations from the South are discussed in

In Tennessee it is an open secret that three former Grant delegates have promised to vote for Blaine, making the delegation nine for Blaine and fifteen for Grant. Of these latter, two are claimed for Sherman, and two have suddenly become non-committal, so that Grant can really count on only eleven delegates, instead of the eighteen claimed when the State Convention adjourned. Ex-Congressman Thornburgh, discussing this matter, expressed the belief that the delegation would still give eighteen votes for Grant, but finally confessed that the outlook for the third-term people was not nearly so bright as it was two weeks ago. He said that he thought the Grant men, in case Grant could not be nominated, would go to Edmunds or Washburne. In Georgia Blaine has gained four votes, it is

said. Ex-Congressman Buck, the ablest of the delegation, now claims that he will begin with a majority of Georgia's vote. Mr. Bryant is not sure that this is true, as now ascertained, but says that he has eleven votes pledged to Blaine in the Georgia delegation without reserve. A trick of the Grant men in that State is to urge that Judge Lochrane secure an alternate's place, and in behalf of the Empire State of the South second Grant's nomination when it is made by Mr. Conkling, of the Empire State of the Union.

I might cite facts and opinious similar to these from every Southern State through which I have passed, except Kentucky and South Carolina. It is enough to say, however, that it is plain It is enough to say, however, that it is plain that General Grant cannot count on the half that he hoped for from the South. The negroes have not developed any of the enthusiasm that it was claimed his name would arouse. On the tontrary, the most prominent colored men m many of the States, and a large proportion in all the States, are against his nomination. The doubt already investing the chances of his nomination is disintegrating the squads that his managers have collected.

managers have collected.

There is another change working in political sentment in the South that deserves notice. I refer to the desertion of Tilden by many Democrats. There is no doubt that Tilden is to-day the strongest candidate in the South for the Democratic nomination. In an open fight be would control every delegation, Mr. Bayard being his only rival in the popular mind. But all thoughtful men have at last come to believe that he cannot be elected unless he heals the split in the ranks in New-York. The most abundant evidences have been furnished lately that this breach, instead of being bridged, is daily growing instead of being bridged, is daily growing wider, and, in consequence, many of Mr. ranks in New-York. The most abundant evidences have been furnished lately that this breach, instead of being bridged, is daily growing wider, and, in consequence, many of Mr. Tilden's best friends have deserted his cause, and are looking about for a more available candidate. Mr. Joseph F. Johnson, the chairman of the Democratic State Committee of Alabama, a short time ago made a tour through New-York to see what the outlook was. Although he left Alabama a Tilden man, he returned satisfied that it would be suicidal to nominate Mr. Tilden. He was convinced that Judge Field was probably the affest man upon whom the choice could fall. The Augusta Chronicle, The Charleston News and Courter, The Mempits Appeal, and other leading papers also openly advocate his nomination. Governor Colquite, of Georgia, and the Supremo Court Judges of that State are unantmous in his falso. aric State Committee of Alabama, a short go made a tour through New-York to see the outlook was. Although he left Alabama is man, he returned satisfied that it would oldal to nominate Mr. Tilden. He avinced that Judge Field was probably set man upon whom the choice could be Augusta Chronicle. The Charleston News rier, The Memphis Appeal, and other papers also openly advocate his nomination. Teclquit, of Georgia, and the Supreme adges of that State are unantmous in his nor Marks, of Tennessee, said to me a month the Democrate could win with Field, but

had little chance with anyone else, and his opinion is chared by ex-Governor Porter of the same State. A few days ago I met Major Hunter and Colonel Preston Johnston, of Virginia, both likely to be delegates to Cincinnati, and they, too, are in favor of Judge Field.

It is folly to suppose that the Southern States

egates to Cincinnati, and they, too, are in favor of Judge Field.

It is folly to suppose that the Southern States will send delegations for Bayard. They feel that he could no more be elected than General Joseph E. Johnston; and while they might nominate and elect him if they had the power, they will risk nothing in the nomination. There is only one idea in the South—"We must nominate the man that can win." As a consequence we shall see the several States sending uninstructed delegations, devoted to the two-thirds rule, and with only one precept—"Nominate the most available man." The signs lead to the conclusion that not a single Southern State will pass instructions for any particular candidate—that Kentucky will not even instruct for Tilden. Unless Tilden can practically unite the New-York Democracy at Cincinnati, he will be ruled out of the race. ruled out of the race.

GRANT LOSES IN LOUISIANA.

ONE-HALF OF THE DELEGATION FOR SHERMAN, New-Orleans, May 23 .- The Republican State Convention will meet to-morrow. The proceedings will probably be harmonious, an arrangement having been entered into by the leaders of the factions for the election of eight Grant and eight Sherman delegates to Chicago, uninstructed.

ANOTHER THOUSAND AGAINST GRANT. OPPOSITION THAT HURTS-ETHAN ALLEN SENDS ANOTHER ROLL.

to the Edstor of The Tribune. Sin: Herewith I send you 1,000 more names of old-time Republican voters who declare that they will not vote for Grant, even if nominated. In my card of May 11 I said that I forwarded 2,000 names. On the 18th of May I sent you 500 more. I now hand you 1,000 additional, or 3,500 in all. There are at least 1,000 more on lists not yet handed in. This makes an aggregate of 4,500 names signed at this time, and before the middle of the week the

total will be over 5,000. It is now time the public should know what this pledge is, which is signed so readily. I give it as

"We, the undersigned Republican voters of the State of New-York, hereby declare our opposition to a third term for President of the United States, and are in favor of a public meeting, as soon as practicable, to give expression to our views. We will not vote for U. S. Grant if nominated. No use is to be made of our names unless the number shall reach 10,000"-followed by name and residence.

These results have been attained in about two weeks' time. It has required no effort. There has been no advertising for names, nor special canvassing. A few printed slips have been handed casually to acquaintances, with a request to let those sign it who desired to do so. No one has been more amazed than myself at the result. I would have amazed than myself at the result. I would have compromised on 500 names when the experiment was began. Ten times that number have come in. The gennieness of these lists is not to be disputed. Our opponents will not dare to test them. Of course I have not personally secured these names, but I have full faith in those who did. If one individual, within about two weeks' time, in a single city, without any organized effort, can obtain 5,000 men certifying by their own signatures that they are solid Republicans and yet will repudiate Grant as the party nominee, how many with time and effort could be obtained throughout the State and Nation! Can the third-termers solve this problem to the satisfaction of the party before they force the nomination of Grant! A change of 5,000 Republicans, remember, makes a difference of 10,000 to the party. What representative at-Chicago will dare to disregard this voice of the people! Yours very truly,

New-Fork, May 22, 1880.

very truly, New-York, May 22, 1880. The names in autograph, with full addresses, accompany the above. A similar percentage of Republican defection throughout the State would throw it hopelessly into the hands of the Dem-

NOT DISMAYED BY RESULTS IN ILLINOIS. THE FRIENDS OF SENATOR BLAINE AND SECRETARY SHERMAN IN THIS CITY-GRANT MEN TRYING TO

GET UP A STAMPEDE. The high-handed manner in which the Grant men in the Illinois Convention overrode the minority caused a good deal of indignation among Republicans in this city on Friday and Saturday. The followers of Senator Biaine and Secretary Sherman were in no wise dismayed by the result. A prominent Republican, an admirer and supporter of Secretary Sherman, remarked: "The result does not surprise me. If Gen eral Grant could not carry his own State he would have been beaten before the Chicago Convention assembled. It is an unwritten law of conventions that a candidate must carry the delegation from his own State to give him any standing in a con vention. If he cannot do this, he is presumed, and justly, to lack the confidence of his party in the It was to be expected that managers would use their majority in the State Convention to secure a majority of the dele gation to the National Convention, but it was hardly to be expected that all the rights of the minority would be trampled on and their right to representation denied so completely. It is a dangerous precedent to establish. It places the minority entirely at the mercy of the majority. In the case of Illinois the same tactics were pursued as in Pennsylvania and New-York, to secure a majority of the delegation for Grant, and in Illinois as in the other States it was the strong Republican counties that were refused representation. In Illinois, however, the majority went further than in New-York and Pennsylvania and named the delegation to the National Convention. For all practical purposes, one might as well have been chosen to cast the vote of the delegation. Outrages of this kind, however, correct themselves in time. The minority should have withdrawn from the Convention when they were refused their rights, and sent a contesting delegation to the National Convention The representatives of the Republican party from

testing delegation to the Republican party from the representatives of the Republican party from every State and Territory in the Union would then be afforded an opportunity to say whether they approved to disapproved this kind of political action."

Another prominent Republican said: "The Grant managers, from now until the meeting of the Convention, will do their utmost to create the impression that General Grant will be nominated on the first ballot. They will do this for the purpose of breaking down the opposition in the New-York and Pennsylvania delegations and also to catch the votes of Southern delecations. The Grant managers have been pursuing a game of brag from the start, believing that if they can convey the impression that Grant will have a majority on the first ballot it will influence a sufficient number of the timid and wavering to bring about that result. There is nothing in the flavires thus furgiven to cause any feeling of discouragement to the opponents of General Grant. The assertion that he will have a majority on the first ballot is mere nonsense. A qury liberal estimate gives him 170 votes in the Northern States. To secure a nomination he must obtain 200 of the 276 votes of the South. The friends of Blaine and Sherman claim more than one-half of these. There is no more reason for the friends of Blaine and Sherman to be discouraged now than at any time during the last two weeks. A stampede of the of these. There is no more reason for the riends of Blaine and Sherman to be discouraged now than at any time during the last two weeks. A stampede of the forces opposed to them is what the Grant men are alm-ing at. It rests with the managers of the opposition whether or not the attempt shall be successful.

LIBERAL REPUBLICANS FOR BLAINE

VIEWS OF A LEADER IN THE GREELEY MOVEMENT. An ex-Member of Congress who was prominent in the Liberal movement in 1872, and a staunel supporter of Mr. Greeley throughout that campaign, in conversation with a Tribune reporter recently, gave his views of the Presidential candidates of the Republican party, and the attitude which the old Liberal party would take toward each candidate if nominated. He said:

"I do not think Grant will be nominated on the first ballot at Chicago, and if the Convention is wise he will not be nominated at all. I do not think it possible for Grant to carry New-York State if the Democrats name any good candidate. He might beat Tilden, but even that is doubtful, as a large number of the Lib erals will not vote for Grant under any circumstances. I do not object to General Grant personally, but to the

nomination would seriously injure the chances for Republican success this Fall."

SENATOR DAVIS ON PUBLIC QUESTIONS. HIS VIEWS GIVEN IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST

FROM O. H. BROWNING-CENTRALIZATION, THE THIRD TERM, THE TARIFF AND OTHER MATTERS. WASHINGTON, May 23 .- The following correspondence between O. H. Browning (formerly Secretary of the Interior) and Senator David Davis, of Illinois, has been furnished for publication by Mr. James E. Harvey:

James E. Harvey:

QUINCY, Ill., May 6, 1880.

My Drar Judge: The approaching close of the present session of Congress will, it is to be feared, leaving estated which are of large public interest and which materially affect the peace and the present which materially affect the peace and the prosent of the Union. Many of your friends it has State and throughout the West had hoped and, indeed, had expected, that an opportunity would have been offered in the Senate by which your views of these matters would have been made known to the country. It unfortunately happens amidst the distractions of party and the strifes of rival ambitions that the voice of statesmanship is husbed too often when wis counsel le most needed. This was never more true that at the present time. The country is just emerging from a long period of trial and suffering. The people seel rest from anny discords and desire to avoid a repetition of the perils through which they have passed. They crave good government, stability and perfect reconciliation between the sections. The statesman who can achieve these great objects will be blessed as a public benefactor. I have ventured to embody, in the form of inquiries appended to this letter, some of the subject upon which your opinions are desired, if it be agreeable to you to comply with the request of a large body ovoters and friends, without distinction of party. Truly your friend.

The Hon. David Davis, United States Senate. QUINCY, Ill., May 6, 1880.

SENATOR DAVIS'S REPLY.

MY DEAR SIR: I have had the pleasure to receive yo letter of the 6th inst. As a constituent, a friend and an honored citizen of Illinois you have a perfect right to ask for my views on public questions, and I have no hesitation in expressing them, taking the inquiries in the order presented.

PEACE IN THE UNION.

Permanent prosperity and fraternal fellowshi, are only to be attained by silencing sectional strife. A faithful adherence to the Constitution and all the Amendments, strict observance of the laws in conformity therewith, and equal rights and equal protection for every citizen it every part of the Republic, will soon end the discordinate have too long vexed the country and injured that have too long vexed the country and injured that have too long vexed the country and injured that have too long the country and injured that have the country and injured that have the country and injured that have the country and injured the country and injured that have too long the country and injured the c

that have too long vexed the country and injured sits material welfare. The people are weary of agitation, and want peace.

CENTRALIZATION.

The Constitution wisely defines the respective limits of the Federal and State Governments under a happy and harmonious system, wherein each is independent in its appropriate sphere, and both operate concurrently to protect the integrity and stability of the Union. Any coronchment of one on the domain of the other necessarily dislocates the machinery of the Constitution and involves danger to the whole body politic. In fact, every departure from the great charter of liberty and law is attended with peril. The demand made by adherents of one of the great parties for a strong government means substantially a centralized government, destructive of home rute in the States, and the very reverse of what Mr. Lincoln well described as a government of the people, by the people, and for the people. Carried to its logical conclusion, such a change would finally overthrow the Republic.

An innovation upon the sanctified traditions of the Presidency, first established by the example of Washington, is urganity demanded by a powerful interest in the Republican party. If the limitation of two terms here tolore universally accepted be destroyed, the way to a self-perpetuating Presidency will be opened by the use and abuse of the enormous public patronage. Break down this barrier, and an end of the experiment of republican government looms up darkly as the cost of a fatal concession.

GREAT CORPORATIONS.

fatal concession.

Great corresponding to the control of the fatal concession.

The rapid growth of corporate power, and the malign influence which it exerts by combinations on the National and State Legislatures, is a well-grounded cause of alarm. A struggle is impending in the near fature hetween this overgrown power, with its vast ramilications all over the Union and a hard grip on much of the political machinery, on the one hand, and the people in an unorganized condition on the other, for control of the Government. It will be watched by every patriot with intense interest.

CIVIL SERVICE.

Neither laws nor commissions created under them will effectually reform the many and glaring abuses of the civil service. The former have been constantly evaded, and the latter are powerless for good. An honest executive bent on real and not samplated reform, the base the capacity to see his duty and the course

for his children away from the seductions of the great cities.

REVISION OF THE TARIFF.

Tariff practically means taxation, and all taxation not equiably adjusted is octious. While the interest on an oppressive public debt, the pensions camed with the blood of soliders and sailers who fought for the Union, and the regular expenses of carrying on the Government are to be met, duties on imports must continue to furnish one of the sources of revenue. So long as those duties are levied, manufacturers will be benefited according to the degree or the mode in which the duties may be distributed. The existing tariff is recarded as a confused mass of incongruities and monopoles, created by special legislation, and open to constant fraud on the revenue. It taxes the consumer heavily on those articles especially that are most needed by the toiling masses. It taxes every messpaper, every school book,

masses. It taxes every newspaper, every school book, every Bibble, and the sait of the workingman, with gross injustice, because the poor pretence of revenue does not exist to cover the wrong. A revision, therefore, which shall be at once searching and fair, is demanded, and should be promptly and efficiently made.

The Penlic Distr.

The debt of the United States in round numbers is two thousand millions, deducting the hearded coin in the treasury. The interest upon it last year was over one hundred millions. These are appalling figures. The property of the structure of this debt is desired, first because it diministics present burdens, and for the additional reason that one of the effects of a personal national debt is to create a preferred class to live on incomes and free from taxes under our laws. Having the protection of the Government at home and abroad, they would contribute nothing to its support.

It is practicable by cooperation between the Executive and Congress to reduce the public expenditures many millions annually without impairing the efficiency of the public service. Betterchment is needed for the reduction of taxes, but it is also needed because property administered it would become a potent factor in renorming the Civil Service. Betterchment is needed for the reduction of taxes, but it is also needed because property administered it would become a potent factor in renorming the Civil Service. ELECTIONS.

The ballot-box should be the safeguard of the Republic, for it is intended to express the free will of a free people. Therefore, elections ought to be exempt from the contamination of corrupt Returning Boards. No party deserves confidence that seeks ascendancy by striking down houses suffrage, either by the use of troops, by fraud, or by intimidation. It would not be proper for me to express any opinion upon measures peeding or proposed in Congress. My votes will speak for the measures and to be exempt the effective of the measures and on the presence of any measures and opinion upon measure

Having thus freely answered your inquiries, I may add in conclusion that my support will be cheerfully given to any candidate for President who, in good faith which, in my judgment, is of far more importance that the ambition of any man or even the success of any party. As ever, your friend. David Davis. The Hon. O. H. BROWNING, Quincy, Ill.

GRANT NOT TO WITHDRAW.

A PERSONAL EDITORIAL FRIEND SAYS GENERAL GRANT WILL REMAIN IN THE FIELD. CHICAGO, May 23 .- A special dispatch to Th Tribune from Galena, Ill., says: lena Gazette, whose editor is a persona friend of General Grant and knows whereof he as serts, will publish the following to-morrow:"

An item has been going the rounds of the Press asserting that George W. Childs, of The Philadelphia Ledger, had stated that General Grant would order his name withdrawn from the contest at the National Convention at Chicaco. Neither George W. Childs, nor any one elso has authority for making such an assertion.

General Grant's name has never gone before the public as a candidate for the Presidency by any word or act of his own, and he most certainly will not order his name withdrawn. of his own and he most certainly will not order his name withdrawn.

A very large class of American people have chosen to make him their candidate and if the Republican National Convention at Chicago see fit to tender him the nomination, he will not decline it. This we know to be a fact, and we publish it because it is well that the Republicans of the country should cease to hold the matter in doubt.

TILDEN GAINS IN MISSOURL

St. Louis, May 23,-Democratic primaries for the election of delegates to the State Convolution will be held at Moberly on the 26th inst. Primaries were bed in this city yesterday afternoon and evening. The returns so far in—about one-half of the wards—indicate that the city will send a pretty strong anti-Tilden delegation. A good many County Conventions were also held yesterday. The returns from some forty show a majority to be for Tilden,

PARTIAL REPUDIATION PROPOSED. NASHVILLE, Tenn., May 23,-The State National Greenback Convention was held here yesterday. There was a slim attendance, representing a portion of the State. The speakers and resolutions tavored repu-diation of all the State debt, except about \$2,000,000. THE NEW BRITISH MINISTRY.

ITS FIRST BLUNDERS AND MISHAPS. THE TORIES EXULTING AT MR. GLADSTONE'S APOLO GETIC LETTER-HIS OWN OPINION OF IT-MR. FAWCETI'S RETRACTION - SIR WILLIAM HAR COURT'S DEFEAT-IMPRUDENT INTERVIEWS.

LONDON, May 13 .- The best friends of the Gov. erument are shaking their heads over the events of the last few days; its enemies are exulting; the neutral public is puzzled. Mr. Fawcett's grave charge against the late Ministry heedlessly made and compulsorily retracted: Sir William Harcourt's defeat at Oxford; Mr. Gladstone's amazing letter to Count Karolyt-these three incidents occurring within three days have seriously damaged for the moment the prestige of a Ministry which only a fortnight before took office amid a chorus of popular applause and the silent discomfiture of its opponents. It is anything but a good beginning. The impression may presently wear off, and doubtless will, but a certain amount of mischief has been done which cannot easily be repaired. For one thing these checks to the Government have inspirited its adversaries, who are lifting their heads once more. The shrill note of that young chanticleer, Lord George Hamilton, is heard again, and there are signs of active disturbance in the House of

Only last Saturday I telegraphed you, on what thought, and still think, sufficient authority, that the Tory gossip about a demand upon Mr. Gladstone and an apology extracted from him was not true that the contrary was true, and that Mr. Gladston had in fact refused to apologize. Since then you have had his letter to Count Karolyi, which you probably thought somewhat inconsistent with my statement. I thought it, and still think it, not only nconsistent but irreconcilable with that statement Yet I am able to say that Mr. Gladstone adheres to his view; that he does not consider his letter an apology; and that he is of opinion that it is he and not Count Karolyi, nor the Emperor, nor the Austrian Government, who comes out of this controversy triumphant. It is enough to make one doubt the evidence of one's eyes and ears. I need not recapit ulate the terms of the Karolyl letter. They are familiar to you. I can only say that when I read it I thought there was only too much justification for the Tory outcry, and for the general feeling that the Prime Minister of England had put his country in a position of some humiliation. The Liberals whom I have talked with admit sorrowfully that the letter is open to this hostile interpretation of it. The Continental papers treat it as a surrender. Continental statesmen are inferring-much too hastily-that it marks the recurrence of that period which they were wont to describe as the effacement of England in European affairs. The telegraphic columns of the London papers are filled with dis patches in this sense. I may assume that you have had your share of intelligence of this kind also, The explanation is this: Mr. Gladstone has

made the mistake of treating one of the points at issue between himself and Austria as if the dispute were personal. He has written such a letter as he or any other high-spirited man might write to another of equal or superior rank whom he had offended-and to whom he had imputed a remark which, in fact, he never made. He certainly does apologize for his mistake; and apologizes in terms somewhat more profuse than most men would care to use. The Prime Minister is too much the private gentleman. The humility of the Christian mingles with the chivalry of the man of honor. But Mr. Gladstone pays little heed either to the personal side of the misunderstanding-beyond a frank ac knowledgment of error-or to the worldly view sure to be taken of his conduct. What weighed upon his mind was the great political question at issue, the attitude of Austria with respect to the Balkan Peninsula and the nationalities in whose behalf he uttered the memorable warning to Austria-" Hands off." He has deeply at heart the welfare of the political future of those oppress populations. He was possessed with a fear that they were to be handed over to the tender mercies of Austrian rule. As to the result of his interviews with Count Karolyi, he has succeeded in extracting from him a specific, explicit declaration that Austria has no wish nor intention of going beyond the lines laid down for her in the Berlin Treaty. He believes he has insured the ultimate independence of the Balkans-that he has at any rate forced Austria to put on record before Europe a pledge that she has no designs upon that independence. That is why he looks upon this whole business not merely with satisfaction but with exultation.

In his view as to the extent of the concession obtained from Austria he is doubtless right. In his view of the value of such a pledge he may not be equally right. Austria has made pledges before low, and broken them. But what Mr. Gladstone did not, apparently, take into account is the anger sure to be produced at home by his attitude of pub lie penitence, and the opinion of the Continent upon that attitude. He knows very well what has been thought and said by Prince Bismarck and by many lesser men about his foreign policy. He would have done well to avoid giving any pretext for the repetition of such remarks. It is an open question thether the Austrian pledge is worth what it cost for the cost is nothing less than the revival of the notion that England under Mr. Gladstone is a less important factor in European politics than she was under Lord Beaconstield. The notion is a wrong notion, but its absurdity does not prevent it from being mischievous.

Mr. Fawcett's blunder is only to be condoned by

bearing in mind his physical infirmity. It is a mi fortune on every side. Before he spoke, the Tories were in utter distress and perplexity about the Indian deficit. They had no defence. There was no question that a gigantic blunder had been com

mitted, that the expenses of the Afghan war had been underestimated to the extent of four millions sterling, and that the accounts of Indian finance on the strength of which the burden of the Afghan war had been thrown by the late Government on Indian shoulders, were talse and misleading. Mr. Fawcett thought be had got hold of a telegram from India which proved that the Tory Ministry became aware of the mistake before the elections, and had concealed it from the country. Without applying to Lord Hartington for confirmation of this telegram, or acquainting him with his intention of referring to the subject, he came out with the whole thing in a speech to his constituents last Friday. The speech was reported in the papers of Saturday, and for some hours Tory ondon was in consternation. The Tory agony lasted through the day. On Sunday it was the turn of the Liberals. Lord Hartington, one of the most impassive of mortals, was met on Sunday afternoon in a state of agitation. He had examined the whole matter, and found that Mr. Fawcett had been mis led-how, he could not tell-and that no such telegram as he described had been received till long after the time indicated, when the elections were nearly over. Mr. Fawcett was communicated with. On Monday morning a letter from Mr. Fawcett was published, acknowledging his error. A letter from the late Under Secretary for India, Mr. Stanhope appeared at the same time plumply and truly denying the accusation that the late Ministry were aware of the error. The effect of Mr. Fawcett's in discretion is, of course, to discount all the capital that would have been made out of the error itself. It is an error of the most enormous proportions and of the most discreditable kind. But the Tories will now suffer less from the detection of it than the present Government suffers from Mr. Fawcett's exaggeration, innocent though it was, of the responsibility

known to the country. It must be added that not long before this Mr. Mundella had been guilty of the indiscretion of allowing himself to be interviewed by a German correspondent, and had said a rumber of not very wise

of the late Ministers for the delay in making it

things about the policy of the Government in which he held a subordinate place. Sir Charles Dilke, un-warned by the fate of his colleague, has more recently done a similar thing, and has had to contradict a part of the opinion imputed to him. Neither Mr. Mundella por Sir Charles Dilke hold seats in the Cabinet, but both have important offices, and both are prominent men. Mr. Fawcett also is outside of the Cabinet, yet with a public reputation that identifies him with the leading men of the Ad ministration. In each case the scandal has had an effect hardly less than would have arisen from a similar indiscretion on the part of a full Minister. The truth is that the present Government includes -whether within or without the Cabinet-a considerable number of strong, independent men, unused to the restraints of official life, and they have had to learn their first lesson at the expense of their colleagues. Mr. Gladstone is not himself the most discreet of men. If anything could modify his impetuosity it might be the reflection that he has to drive a team which contains so many unbroken and

too high-spirited steeds.

Of Sir William Harcourt's defeat at Oxford only a word need be said. It has contributed something to the sudden and fleeting cloud that obscures the Liberal sky. But it is of much less importance than Mr. Gladstone's or Mr. Fawcett's performances. It would be absurd to say that it indicates a reaction against the Liberals. If it had come after the discovery of Mr. Fawcett's mistake, or after the publication of Mr. Gladstone's apology, either of those unhappy events might have sufficed to account for it. But it occurred before, and those who know Oxford say that it is sufficiently explained by the peculiar relations between Sir William Harcours and the constituency he had represented for twelve years past. Sir William had not thought it worth while to conciliate the personal good will of some of his political supporters. He had allowed it to be supposed that he considered Oxford as much indebted to him as he to Oxford. Probably this view did him injustice, but it may none the less have chilled the zeal of the fifty or sixty voters whose support would have given him the seat. And then Mr. Hall is a brewer, and the number of thirsty souls in Oxford is very considerable. G. W. S.

GENERAL FOREIGN NEWS.

THE LYONS ELECTION. PARIS, May 23, 1880.

The election at Lyons for member of the Chamber of Deputies to succeed M. Millaud, who became Senator, resulted as follows: M. Blanqui, 5,957; men's candidate), 2,650. There were 1,440 blank voting papers cast. A second ballot will be necessary.

BRINGING TURKEY TO TERMS.

BERLIN, May 22, 1880. An identical note from the Powers will go to Constantinople in a few days, summoning the Porte to settle the Armeniau, Montenegrin and Greek ques tions. Upon the reply of the Porte will depend whether a supplementary conference will be held in Berlin to consider the Greek question. The first fortnight in July is the period at present contemplated for holding the conference. The Porte will be excluded from the deliberations, which will be held on the basis of Clause 24 of the Treaty of Berlin

THE SPANISH COALITION.

MADRID, May 23, 1880. The Diario Español says the four groups of the Opposition combined only command forty-four votes in the Senate and eighty-three in the Chamber of Depuin the Schale and eight-state in the Countries. It is therefore too small to defeat the Government.

A revolutionary band in the Province of Castellon is marching in the direction of the town of Chelva. Armed columns have started in hot pursuit.

> A COMMUNIST DEMONSTRATION. PARIS, May 23, 1880.

The Communist demonstration to-day in memoration of the death of their comrades shot or May 23, 1871, passed of without any more across notion dents than the arrest of thirteen persons, including one Prussins, and a slight encounter between the police and the throng.

THE NICARAGUA CANAL.

PANAMA, May 15 .- The Star and Herald says: " A contract has been made between Mr. A. G. Menocal, on the part of an American company, and the Government of the Republic of Nicaragua, for the construction of a canal across Nicaraguan territory. It nov awaits only the approval of the Legislative Congress, which has been convened for that purpose, to become a law of the land." The Portenir, of Nicaragua, asserts that the moving spirits of the new American company are President Hayes, General Grant, Admiral Ammen and Mr. A. G. Menocal. a heavy insurance upon his life.

PRINCE LEOPOLD IN QUEBEC, QUEBEC, May 23 .- Prince Leopold arrived by the Sardinian this afternoon. The Governor-General and the Princess Louise embarked on the steam yacht Dolphin and boarded the Sardinan being received at the gangway by Captain Dutton. On meeting the Prince, the Princess kissed him fondly. The united party crossed back in the fondly. The united party crossed back in the steam yacht to Quebec, when a royal salute was fired, after which they arove direct to the citadel.

The Lieutenant Governor and some of his ministers, also the Mayor and the Councillors were present on the wharf, but no reception or presentation took place other than that the Princess Louise introduced the Lieutenant-Governor formally to Prince Leopold.

FOREIGN NOTES.

LONDON, May 23, 1880.
The French Budget Committee has further reduced the Public Worship estimates by \$40,000, It is said that Signor Ostiani will go to Washington a The Porte has settled the claims of the contractors for

the War Office by giving them assignments upon the titles for the next year.

THE READING SUSPENSION.

PHILADELPHIA, May 23 .- There have been no new developments in the affairs of the Reading Railroad Company. President Gowen still declines to make any statement and says that until matters are straight-

ened out it will do no good to talk to the public. As far as can be ascertained there have been no additional suspensions of brokers, and it is thought by those hkely to know that there will be no more. Well-informed men think if trustees are appointed to take charge of the road the company will be able to clear itself in a few years.

END OF THE OMAHA STRIKE.

OMAHA, Neb., May 23 .- The strike at the Smelting Works ended to-day. A conference was held to-day between Governor Vance, the Smelting Works Company and a committee from the strikers. The company had previously offered \$1 50 for nine hours' work pany had previously offered \$1 000 hade actus work for common laborers. This afternoon the company offered \$1 05 for ten hours' work, and agreed to make no black lists. This was accepted by the strikers, who will all go to work to-morrow morning. The Government troops have been sent back to Fort Omaha, and the militia ordered to disperse immediately.

THE REV. DR. PELTZ VINDICATED.

JAMESTOWN, N. Y., May 23 .- James Preston the clerk of the First Baptist Church, makes the follow ing announcement:
After exhaustive examination of the allegations of adultery against the Rev. Dr. Peltz, the principal testimony being aworn affidavits, his innocence was thoroughly established. The committee of investigation and the church are unanimous. In the judgment of the church, however, he should abstain from preaching until he has recovered from the effect of the rumors.

A DUEL BETWEEN BROTHERS.

GALVESTON, Texas, May 23 .- A dispatch to The News from Denison says: At McAllister, I. T., last night "Bill" and "Bud" Pusaley, brothers, and half-breeds, fought a duel in which "Bill" was shot and instantly killed. "Bill" was a prominent man, and largely interested in coal mines.

THEODORE THOMAS GOING ABROAD.

CINCINNATI, May 23 .- Theodore Thomas left for New-York last night, and will sail on May 26 in the Gallia for Europe.

THE WHITTAKER INQUIRY. POUGHKEEPSIE. N. Y., May 23.-Information has been received from West Point that the counsel in the Whittaker case are not yet ready for argument, and therefore the Court will not meet to-morrow.

## ANXIOUS FOR RAIN.

THE EARTH PARCHED AND DRY. DAMAGE TO THE FRUIT CROPS OF THE ME FIELDS AND PASTURES DRYING UP.

FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPO KINGSTON, N. Y., May 22.-For a Alnostron, N. 1., May 22.—For a more past there has been no rain of any account along river, and the soil has become dried and parched early Spring rains were copious and heavy; these the ground thoroughly soaked. Mearly ever sines have had hot sunshine and almost continuous dry, winds. The soil is now packed hard and pluggling almost impossible. The fruit men, who were so class the prospect three weeks are when the blesses. at the prospect three weeks ago when the b night after night closes in and the clouds dis without a drop of rain.

without a drop of rain.

Small fruits are already greatly injured beyond power
of entire reparation, even should rain come at once.

Strawberries have blossomed, and the herries have not
poorly. It is entirely safe to assume that the crey will
be shortened fully one-third from the effects of the
drouth already, and unless rain comes very soon
damage will be much greater. Currants, raspherries and gamage will be much greater. Currants, rasperress gooseberries have also suffered, but to a less extens having deeper roots. The fruit on these has not set on abundantly as seemed probable at first, and will also smaller in size unless rain comes to the rescue. The worm has, however, been less troubles

such an extent, but an unusually large share of the su

embryo fruits have already fallen, and much more than half that is left is loose and withering. This is true of plums, peaches, apples and cherries, and unless reliations as the pear that the loss will extend much further. Pear blossomed very sparingly all through this region the year, and the crop will be light. It is evidently not the pear year.

Many thousands of young fruit trees have been planted in the lower Ulster towns this Spring, and the damage to these will be very great, especially when proper attention to mulching has not been given.

Farmers are greatly retarded in their operations by the excessive dryness of the soil. A larce acreage to devoted to corn, potatocs, and other crops are yet unjunted, and much that has been planted for week, still falls to show that the seed has germinated. Case and Spring sown grains are barely above ground, and dormant. Grass meadows are short and damaged beyond the possibility of restoration, especially old meadows, and the hay crop must be correspondingly light in this region. Pasturage is also very scarce. Streams are rapidly drying up; cisterns and wells are low made empty; streets and country roads are thick with beda et dust. Fire are greatly feared, which, if once started here and fanued by a brisk wind in a city with no water the result of the conflagration would be terrible to contemplate. Everybody and everything is waiting to the conflagration would be terrible to estemplate.

RELIEF FOR VIRGINIA FREDERICKSBURG, Va., May 23.-Gene and plentiful rain throughout the Tidewater and Pietmont districts of Virginia, for two days past have calculthe exceptional drouth of nearly two months. Com-planting and other farming operations have been greatly delayed, and the oat crop will be short.

LOW WATER IN TROUT STREAMS. ALBANY, May 23.—The heavy rain storm last Thursday did considerable damage to the hop-deads at Schenevus, Otsego County. Although the storm was felt here, and as far south as Hudson, the trout flabor in Repsselaer County still complain of low wates in the

SPECULATION AND SUICIDE.

A BROOKLYN MERCHANT SHOOTS HIMSELA DESPONDENCY OVER LOSSES IN WALL STREET THE CAUSE OF THE ACT.

Thomas W. Rice, a retired and wealthy merchant living at No. 326 Adelphi-st., Brooklyn, killed himself yesterday morning. He was sixty-two years old and gave up active business three years ago. Recently he began to speculate in stocks in Wall Street, and met with poor success. His latest operations were attended with considerable losses, but made as very serious inroads upon his fortune. On account of his ill success he became very despondent and told his wife the cause of his depressi

On Saturday he did not leave his bed. At o'clock in the evening his wife saw him, but he appeared quiet and she spent the night with a sich daughter in the next room. About half-pass 6 o'clock yesterday morning she was roused by the report of a pistol, and rushing into her husband's room she found that he had shot himself in the left temple. A doctor was summoned but could de nothing, and in a few minutes Mr. Rice was dead. Coroner Simms was informed and impanelled a jury. The testimony of Mrs. Rice and of her daughter was heard, and a verdict of suicide during to porary aberration of mind was rendered. The

THE FIRE RECORD.

viving family includes four children. Mr. Rice had

SEVENTY BUILDINGS BURNED. LARGE FIRE AT EDENBURG. PENN .-- ONE HUNDRED FAMILIES HOMELESS.

PITTSBURG. Penn., May 23 .- A fire started about 9 o'clock last night in the United States Hotel as Edenburg, Clarion County, Penn., and destroyed seventy buildings before it was subdued. A dispatch to The Commercial says:

About 9 o'clock last evening flames were die covered issuing from the windows of the United States Hotel, an unoccupied building on Railroadst., which soon spread to adjoining houses and before a crop of water was thrown or a building rased twenty houses were in flames. From Railroad-st. to Main the conflagation rolled on wrapping in its heated folds everything of an inflammable nature that stood in the way. From Main-st, to Penn-ave. and down the latter thorough-fare the fire swept, destroying in all seventy build-ings, among which are the Post Office, Clarion County Bank, Brown's Hotel, the United States Hotel and the United Pipe Line offices. The loss will aggregate \$150,000, on which there is little one incommence. Over a hundred families are home-less, and many who slept in comfortable Beds the previous niggt, slept upon the ground last night.

IN BROOKLYN YESTERDAY.

A fire broke out yesterday morning at Unionave, and North Seventu-st., Brooklyn, E. D., in a onestory wooden building, occupied by James Rennessey as a rag shop. The building is No. 207 Union-ave. and No. 315 North Seventh-st. It was damaged \$700, and insured for \$500 in the Greenwich Insurance Company. The stock was injured \$2,000, one-half of which is covered by insurance in the Long Island City and Greenwich Companies. A borse in the building, value \$300, was burned. The flames extended to No. 313 \$300, was burned. The flames extended to No. 312
North Seventh-st., a three-story wooden dwelling owned
and occupied on the first floor by James Bracklin. He
loss is about \$450. covered by insurance, except upon his
turniture. William Bracklin, living upon the second
floor, suffered a loss of \$200, and Francis Kealy, upon
the third floor, \$60. No. 209 Union-ave, was also
burned. John Young, the owner, lost \$600, and James
Yan Brunt, a tenant, \$75. making a total estimated loss
of \$4,385.

of \$4,385.
By the explosion of a kerosene lamp yesterday at No. 154 Second-st., occupied by Mrs. Strange, a loss of \$100 was caused.
Children playing with matches caused a fire at No. 407 Smith-st. yesterday afternoon. The loss to furniture owned by Patrick McColigan was \$50.

NOMINATIONS FOR THE POLICE BOARD.

An effort is being made by certain Republicans to have Colonel Joel W. Mason ask Mayor Cooper to withdraw his nomination for Police Commissions before the meeting of the Board of Aldermen to-morrow It is not likely that this effort will be success should it be, the Mayor will at once send in to the Aldermen the name of another pronounced Republican. This would have been done last Tuesday had Colonel Mason's nomination been rejected. The Mayor is reticent, but it is understood that among the manes he had in reserve are those of John D. Lawson and General Arthur.

TELEGRAPHIC NOTES.

ARRIVAL OF THE FERN.

DRLAWARE BREAKWATER, May 23.—The United States steamer Fern arrived here yesteniay.

A WARNING TO BATHEIRS.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., May 23.—John Kenney was drowned this moroing while bathing in senedlet Feas.

CHARGED WITH SETTING A SHIP ON FIRE.

NEW-ORLEANS, May 23.—Thomas Melias, a saling of the British ship from Uress, was to-day sont to fall on charge of having for \$250, see fire to that yesses, which was losded with cotton, April 24.

A DHATH BENTEROE COMMUTED.

BALTIMORE, May 23.—Governor Hamilton Free commuted the sections of Frank Bengins, colored, sont of the Burner of the mistress and esobenced to by heart of the barner of the mistress and esobenced to by heart of the barner of the mistress and esobenced to by heart of the barner of the mistress and esobenced to by heart of the barner of the barner of the mistress and esobenced to by heart of the barner of the mistress and esobenced to by heart of the barner of